

Stowell, Sir Joseph Wesley, 1858-1939

1919-1920 (041)

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August 27th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,

Chairman, Board of Trustees, Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

Dr. Duncan Graham is becoming very anxious with regard to laboratory accommodation in the Toronto General Hospital for his work in the immediate future. As you are aware he cannot organise along the lines of a modern hospital without clinical laboratory accommodation. On August 11th he petitioned the Board to supply space for this purpose in Wards B and C similar to that now in D, inasmuch as he understands that for some time to come it is unlikely that central laboratory accommodation for all departments will be available. His lesser request involves the use of only two rooms, and the fitting and equipping of them should not come to more than a few thousand dollars. This would supply the immediate wants of the medical section of the Hospital. Dr. Crittain in his reply to Dr. Graham seemed to say that no action whatever could be taken until the larger question is dealt with. Do you not think that the smaller matter could be arranged very soon?

I am leaving town to-night, but expect to be back on Friday, September 5th. We should have our Hospital and University appointments made if possible by the Board of Governors of the University at the meeting of the Board on Monday

afternoon, September 8th. Could you therefore have a meeting of the Joint Hospital and University relations committee on Monday morning, September 8th? If so, would you please let me know the place and the hour? How would a quarter past nine suit, but any time in the morning convenient for yourself I shall be free?

Yours sincerely,

President.

December 31st, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Imperial Munitions Board,  
Toronto.

My dear Sir Joseph:

Yesterday the Board of Governors had a meeting with the Government and among other matters they brought forward the request for \$125,000 on behalf of the Toronto General Hospital. This matter is therefore now before the Government, but I think probably we shall wish to meet them again, and possibly we might wish to have representatives from the Hospital at the same time. This at least was Sir Edmund Walker's idea.

I am glad to know that you have been so successful and of course I recognise that it is your own magnificent gift that has cleared the situation. It is a satisfaction also to know that you are taking steps for the equipment of the Laboratory and X-ray departments.

I have not yet had any information except in the most general terms as to any proceeds that may come to the University of Toronto from the Rockefeller Foundation. This afternoon I am meeting a Committee to look into the matter and probably I shall then correspond with Dr. George Vincent. My understanding is that a representative will soon visit the University and look into the whole situation, and I assume that the needs of the Faculty of Medicine in regard to laboratory accommodation in the Hospital will be one of the first matters which they would investigate.

With kind regards, I am,  
Yours sincerely,

President.

IMPERIAL MUNITIONS BOARD  
TORONTO

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

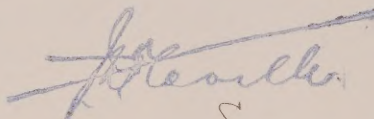
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January Twenty-fourth,  
Nineteen Twenty.

Dear Sir Robert:-

Find herewith copy of letter  
concerning increased hospital accommodation,  
which I wrote to Mr. Bradshaw on the 20th  
instant.

Faithfully yours,

  
S

Sir Robert Falconer, K.C.M.G.,  
President, University of Toronto,  
T o r o n t o .

Enclo.

Copy

January 2-th, 1920.

My dear Mr. Bradshaw:

I enclose card which I received in this morning's mail.

It is to be borne in mind that surgeons and doctors are exceedingly anxious for appointment upon the staff of the hospitals for two reasons: One, it gives them valuable experience and in due course is likely to lead to association with the University Medical Faculty, and bring them into relations with matters concerning the development of medical science, which otherwise is not easily established. As the number of doctors in a city greatly exceeds the number of appointments possible on hospital staffs, there is also a restless feeling on the part of doctors and surgeons to secure additional hospital capacity, and local and sectional interests are aroused for the purpose of demanding hospital accommodation in the locality which seems to be less well supplied in this respect than other sections.

Then there is the purely personal side, which very naturally appeals. A doctor sends a patient to the public wards of the hospital because he believes he can secure better attention than is possible in his home. The patient enters the hospital, receives the attention of the hospital physician or surgeon in the ward in which he is placed, he is pleased with the service which he renders, with the result that sometimes when he returns home, he uses the hospital doctor for his family requirements, and the doctor who sent his patient to the hospital finds that sometimes it results in the loss of his patient.

You will therefore see that the agitation, which largely originates with members of the profession for increased hospital accommodation, arises out of conditions which give a natural basis for the pressure for increased facilities.

I have a very clear view, however, and I think it is one which is generally held by the leaders in the profession, that the need in the city at the present time, both for the sake of the patients and for the benefit of medical education, is that the existing hospitals should be used to their limit for acute cases, and that convalescing and convalescent patients should be moved from the wards of the hospital as promptly as possible, and sent to convalescent institutions which would be placed adjacent to and outside the city, or in some place with ample air space within the city. The effect of this would be that immediately patients are sufficiently convalescent to be removed, they would be placed in a better atmosphere for complete recovery than would be possible in the wards of a hospital constantly admitting new acute cases. From the standpoint of teaching, it would give to the clinical instructors a constant

supply of fresh material full of interest and value from the clinical standpoint. As it is, there is a steady accumulation of chronics in the wards of the hospitals in the city, and the available acute cases are in consequence restricted.

I am sure that at the present time there is ample public ward accommodation in the city for all acute cases requiring treatment. Indeed, notwithstanding the occupation of beds by chronic patients, every hospital has spare beds at the present time. I hope, therefore, no action will be taken to add to public ward hospital accommodation in Toronto without a report being furnished the Council by a competent body who will review the whole situation from the standpoint of what is best for the treatment of the sick poor and what is best for medical education, with which is associated the sound training of the great masses of students who are to become the doctors and surgeons of the future.

I am confident that if a competent body of independent men were selected to report, that a recommendation would be made that the next increase in accommodation should be in a convalescent home rather than in a hospital for the treating of acute cases.

I need hardly say to you that I am writing solely as a citizen, deeply interested in hospital treatment and medical education by reason of my association with both for a period of years.

Faithfully yours,

(SGD) J. W. FLAVELLE

Thomas Bradshaw, Esq.,  
Commissioner of Finance,  
Toronto.

January 26th, 1920

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Imperial Exhibition Board,  
Toronto.

Dear Sir Joseph:

I have just read your letter to Mr.  
Bradshaw, and the positions that you take seems to me  
to be entirely sound.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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IMPERIAL MUNITIONS BOARD  
TORONTO

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

July 2nd, 1919.

My dear President Falconer :

You will remember the Rev. George Jackson, who was minister in Sherbourne Street Methodist Church for four years. His oldest son, Kenneth, writes me as per enclosed.

He is a good boy. Immediately on his graduation in 1916, he enlisted as a gunner for service overseas, and fortunately came through the war without serious mishap. He is determined to continue his life in Canada in preference to remaining in England. Is there any possibility of his securing an appointment as demonstrator in the Faculty for Applied Science ?

I have not written to General Mitchell as it seemed to me that my communication ought to go direct to you.

Yours faithfully,

President Robert Falconer,  
University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Ont.



IMPERIAL MUNITIONS BOARD  
TORONTO

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

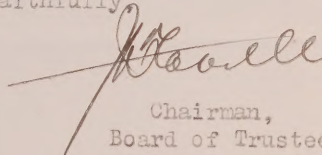
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July 4th, 1919.

My dear President Falconer :

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Toronto General Hospital will be held on Wednesday next at the Hospital. I think the hour of meeting is four o'clock in the afternoon- your regular notice, however, will tell you this.

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to attend the meeting if possible. There are some matters of great importance in connection with the Hospital, and I am anxious that you should be present and that we should have the benefit of your counsel.

Yours faithfully,

  
Chairman,  
Board of Trustees.

President Robert Falconer,  
University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Ont.

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July 9th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Imperial Examinations Board,  
Toronto.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I have gone over Mr. Jackson's letter with General Mitchell. At present there seems to be no opening in the Department of Engineering to which Mr. Jackson might be appointed, but General Mitchell will keep his eye open for any possible opening.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.



Dear Sir Joseph.

Dr Duncan Graham is getting very anxious with regard to the matter of laboratory accommodation in the J.G.H. for his work in the immediate future. He <sup>As you are aware</sup> ~~feels the~~ cannot organise the hospital work ~~without~~ on the lines of a modern hospital without clinical lab. accom. Although <sup>for this purpose</sup> the ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~petition~~ <sup>the</sup> Board to supply ~~the~~ <sup>space</sup> in words that I consider to that now in G. Warriner he understands that <sup>it is impossible that</sup> central lab. accom. for all clinical departments ~~it~~ can be obtained for some time to come. This lesser request involves only ~~one~~ <sup>two</sup> rooms & the fitting & re-fitting of them should not amount to more than a few thousand dollars. This w<sup>d</sup> supply the immediate wants of the medical section of the hospital. ~~He received~~ <sup>Dr Brittain</sup> in his reply to D.G. seemed to ~~not~~ mean that no action whatever could be taken until the larger question is ~~before~~ <sup>dealt with</sup>. Do you not think that the smaller matter could be arranged almost immediately?

Could we have a meeting of the Joint Hospitals ~~Board~~ <sup>Committee</sup> on Monday morning - Sept 8<sup>th</sup>. ~~with~~ <sup>ask</sup> you for nominations. If so please let me know the hour. W<sup>d</sup> 9:15-5:15?

September 24th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

Professor Prirose has submitted to me the appointments that he wishes made in Clinical Surgery for the coming year, and of these the largest number naturally will concern the Toronto General Hospital. I have gone over them with Professor Prirose, and the Professor of Surgery agrees to his recommendations, and I should like to lay these appointments before the trustees of the Toronto General Hospital for their consideration and if possible approval, so that action might be taken to-morrow along with others.

From what Professor Prirose tells me I judge that there are very few important changes; that some temporary appointments made on account of the absence of others at the war have had to be dropped; but he will be glad to explain to you his nominations.

I hope that it may be possible to get these through to-morrow when the other appointments are put through.

Yours sincerely,

President.

IMPERIAL MUNITIONS BOARD  
TORONTO

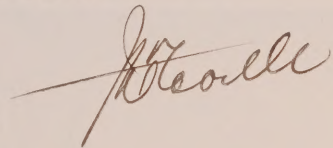
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

September 26th, 1919.

Dear Sir Robert Falconer :

We did not have a quorum at the meeting of the Hospital Board yesterday afternoon. I explained to the Board, however, that you and Bruce Macdonald and Mark Irish were aware of the circumstances and that I would have the Secretary record your names on the book as consenting members of the Board to the nominations. This being done, we approved the report of the Joint Hospital Relations Committee and I will be pleased to have you advise the Secretary of the Board that you concur in the report.

Yours faithfully,



Sir Robert Falconer,  
President, University of Toronto,  
Toronto.

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September 30th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I am sending you a further memorandum from Professor Primrose containing recommendations of additional names for the staff of those who will be required for teaching in his department. Would you be kind enough to have them submitted along with the others when the Board deals with the appointments in Surgery?

Yours sincerely,

President.

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President's Office.



September 30th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I am sending you a further memorandum from Professor Primrose containing recommendations of additional names for the staff of those who will be required for teaching in his department. Would you be kind enough to have them submitted along with the others when the Board deals with the appointments in Surgery?

Yours sincerely,

*Robert Falconer*

President.

TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

SESSION 1919-20.

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GENITO-URINARY DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Jones.

H. A. Hair.

Robin Pearse.

President's Office.



September 27th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I have just written to Mr. Decker  
asking him to add my name as a consenting member of the  
Board of Trustees to the nominations in Medicine.

Yours sincerely,

*Robt. Henry*

President.

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September 29th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I have just written to Mr. Becker  
asking him to add my name as a consenting member of the  
Board of Trustees to the nominations in Medicine.

Yours sincerely,

President.

September 26th, 1919.

Dear Sir Robert Falconer :

We did not have a quorum at the meeting of the Hospital Board yesterday afternoon. I explained to the Board, however, that you and Bruce Macdonald and Mark Irish were aware of the circumstances and that I would have the Secretary record your names on the book as consenting members of the Board to the nominations. This being done, we approved the report of the Joint Hospital Relations Committee and I will be pleased to have you advise the Secretary of the Board that you concur in the report.

Yours faithfully,

Sir Robert Falconer,  
President, University of Toronto,  
Toronto.

October 11th, 1919

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I am very glad indeed to know  
that Miss Gunn is quite agreeable to the appointment  
of Mr. Decker as Superintendent, and I hope that  
this is the inauguration of a very successful period  
of Hospital administration.

Yours sincerely,

President.

January 7th, 1920

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Imperial Munitions Board,  
Toronto.

Dear Sir Joseph:

Now that Dr. Friarose is back perhaps you  
would have a meeting of the Advisory Board of the Hospital  
to hold their conference with the Board of Trustees for the  
purpose of carrying out the proposal that we discussed in  
Committee before Christmas.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

C O P Y

RIVERDALE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

Toronto,  
January 19th, 1920.

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart,  
Toronto.

This Association six years ago agitated for a hospital in Riverdale. Then came the war and the matter had to be shelved. It is again a live issue and a deputation is to wait upon the Board of Control in the City Hall, on Wednesday next, January 21st, at eleven o'clock, to present the case.

If possible kindly arrange to be present and bring as many others as you can.

(SGD) H. W. BARKER

Secretary

February 23rd, 1920

A. D. Fraser, Esq.,  
2 Quinpool Road,  
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Sir:

Sir Robert Falconer is not in his office on account of illness, but I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and to say that at present there is no vacancy in the Department of Classics in University College, but that your letter will be kept on file in case any opening occurs.

Yours sincerely,

President's Secretary.

March 1st, 1929

Sir Joseph Flavelle,  
The Imperial Munitions Board,  
Toronto.

Dear Sir Joseph:

A year ago I had correspondence with you in regard to the continuance of the Flavelle Scholarship. At that time you stated that you wished to discontinue the Scholarship, but were willing that one more award should be made as announced in the Calendar, and also that owing to the expense of living in Oxford you were willing that the amount should be raised from \$750 to \$1000.

An award was made in 1919 to Mr. H. V. Wrong, who received the first instalment in the session 1914-15. Mr. Wrong was killed in action in July 1916. From that Scholarship \$500 remained in the Bursar's hands until last session when the award of the Scholarship, as announced in the Calendar, was made to his brother, Mr. H. W. Wrong.

The \$500 remaining in the Bursar's hands has been paid to Mr. H. W. Wrong, and now a further instalment of the Scholarship is due. Would you be kind enough to have your agent send to the Bursar the amount that will cover this instalment as well as that for the second year? The full amount as I understand it is \$1500.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

June 14th, 1920

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.,  
Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
Toronto General Hospital.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I am very sorry about the accident  
in the Toronto General Hospital. Certainly every effort  
must be made to prevent such an occurrence happening again.  
I will take the earliest opportunity of mentioning the  
matter also to Dr. Graham when I see him.

Yours sincerely,

President.